

88. PERISOREUS CANADENSIS.

The well-known "Whisky Jack" is a constant companion of the voyageurs on their long and wearisome journeys throughout the fur-countries. Everywhere, be it winter or summer, at the camping-place of the sledge-drivers or the more animated mid-day halt of a brigade of boats or canoes, the Canada Jay is sure to give his company uninvited, and feed on any stray bits of "pemmican" or dried-meat he can pick up. Every one who has read the narratives of arctic land-travel, or the more amusing stories of fur-traders' life, will have heard of the devices put in practice to entrap this inquisitive bird. A very common method, and one which has the advantage of not requiring mechanical aid, is for a man to lie down in the bow of a boat, when made fast to the shore, and covering his head and shoulders with a capot, keep quite quiet, while he holds a piece of pemmican in the hollow of his hand; presently Mr. Jay alights on the stern of the boat, hops closer and closer, and at last, just as he is in the act of securing the pemmican, the horny hand of the voyageur suddenly closes, and a plaintive squeak announces that his inquisitiveness has led the "Whisky Jack" into a man-trap. My specimen ('Ibis,' vol. iv. p. 8) was obtained at Fort Carlton; Mr. Murray has received one from the coast of Hudson's Bay, while it is recorded in the 'Fauna Bor.-Am.' and by Mr. Ross up to the Arctic Circle. The bird figured and described by Swainson as *Garrulus brachyrhynchus* is generally supposed to be the young of the Canada Jay.

[To be continued.]

VII.—*Additions and Corrections to the Ornithology of Northern China.* By ROBERT SWINHOE, Corr. Mem. Zool. Soc.

(Plate III.)

To commence with the birds of Talien Bay (for notes on which see 'Ibis,' vol. iii. p. 251).

10. *EMBERIZA RUSTICA*, Pall., should be *E. cioides*, Temm. Faun. Japon; the same as *E. ciopsis*, Bp.

12. *ALAUDA LEAUTUNGENSIS*, Swinhoe.

This bird is closely allied to *A. cristata*, S. of Europe, but appears to me to be distinct. It belongs to Boié's subgenus

Galerida, most of the species of which are generally understood to inhabit desert tracts. In this respect our species differs, for in Talien it seemed quite as partial to the corn-fields as the true *Alaudæ*. None of the Russian ornithologists (Pallas, Midden-dorff, or v. Schrenck) notice a Crested Lark throughout Siberia; I feel, therefore, a greater confidence in considering my bird distinct.

17. COLUMBA LEUCOZONURA, Swinhoe.

This is certainly the Pigeon which Pallas, in his 'Zoograph. Rosso-Asiat.' (i. p. 560), describes as a rock-frequenting variety of *C. ænas*, whence Bonaparte names it *C. rupestris*. My name must therefore sink into a synonym.

Now let us turn to the birds of Peking ('Ibis,' vol. iii. p. 323). To this list my investigations, since my arrival in England, enable me to make several necessary corrections; and a fine series of skins, collected by Mr. Fleming, of the Royal Artillery, and kindly submitted for my inspection by Mr. Whiteley, naturalist, of Woolwich, places it in my power to record several important additions.

3. EAGLE BUZZARD. *Buteo* — ?

The want of a defined tooth in the beak in my specimen led me to refer this bird to the genus *Buteo*. It is a specimen of the Saker Falcon—*Falco sacer* of Schlegel.

5. PIED HARRIER. *Circus* — ?

The bird observed by me must have been *Circus melanoleucus* (Gm.), as Mr. Whiteley's collection contains one of that species. It cannot therefore be referred to our Amoy Harrier, which Mr. Gurney identifies with *C. spilonotus*, Kaup.

9. ACCIPITER NISUS ?

This specimen, as well as those procured by me in South China, are all referred by Mr. Gurney to the true *A. nisus* of Europe.

From Mr. Whiteley's series I am enabled to add to the Peking list four other *Accipitres*, namely,—

(1.) POLIORNIS PYRRHOGENYS, Schleg. Faun. Japon.

There are in Mr. Fleming's collection a pair of Buzzards, in worn plumage, which Mr. Gurney considers to be of this species.

(2.) THE HOBBY. *Falco subbuteo*, L.

(3.) ACCIPITER SOLOËNSIS, Horsfield.

(4.) ACCIPITER GULARIS, Schleg. Faun. Japon. ?

Larger than the last, with longer bill, but without the streaks on the throat. The British Museum has one of this species from Shanghai. This must, for the present, be doubtfully referred to the Japanese bird.

10. TAWNY OWL. *Otus brachyotus*, L. ?

Erase the note of interrogation.

To the Owls I can now add

(1.) OTUS VULGARIS, Fleming.

(2.) SCOPS JAPONICUS, Schleg. Faun. Japon.

Probably identical with *S. bakkamaena*, Pennant, of India.

(3.) NINOX JAPONICA, Temm. Faun. Japon.

Mr. Gurney considers the single specimen of this to be rather referable to the Japanese than to the Indian and Malasian *N. scutulatus*, Raffles.

13. SWALLOW. *Hirundo rustica*, L.

The oldest name for this form of the Common Swallow appears to be *H. panayana*, Gmelin, and not *H. javanica*, Sparrm.

14. TIGER-SWALLOW. *Hirundo daiürica*.

Should be *H. daiürica*, Linn., nec Pallas. The synonym applied by the latter is *H. alpestris*.

15. SAND-MARTIN. *Cotyle riparia* ?

Is undoubtedly the *C. sinensis* of J. E. Gray. It is smaller than, and quite distinct from, *C. riparia*. I have lately procured this species at Amoy.

To these three Swallows we can now add a fourth ; for Mr. Fleming's series contains a mature specimen of a House-Martin (*Chelidon*), but unfortunately with its wings clipped. I exhibited this bird, with the rest of the North-China skins lent me by Mr. Whiteley, before the Zoological Society, on the 25th of November ; and I will consequently extract from the paper then read my remarks on the differentiation of this species from its fellows of the

genus. "In this genus there have hitherto been only two recognized species—the European Martin (*C. urbica*, L.) and the Cashmere Martin (*C. cashmiriensis*, Gould), the Nipal Martin (*Delichon nipalensis*, Moore) being of an intermediate form between the true Martins and the Sand-Martins. The Cashmere Martin is at once distinguishable from its English congener by its much smaller size, by its deep-brown axillaries, and by its shorter and much less furcate tail, as also by the browner colour of its upper parts. That it is a good species there can be no doubt. Mr. Whiteley's specimen, in the steel-blue colour of the upper parts, assimilates to the European species, but differs from it strikingly in its smaller size, in its much less emarginate tail, in its deep-brown axillaries, and in having the whole of the upper tail-coverts pure white instead of steel-black at the tips. Its breast, moreover, shows no sign of the partial brown band of the House-Martin. Now, strange enough Capt. Blakiston has brought from Hakodadi, Japan, another Martin, which, on the other hand, resembles *C. cashmiriensis* in its proportions, in the colour of the back, and in the almost even tail, but differs from it in having a black chin, black instead of brown axillaries, and in having the ends of the lower tail-coverts broadly tipped with black. Capt. Blakiston assures me that his specimen is a mature male, shot in July."

The species of the genus *Chelidon* will therefore now stand as follows :—

(1.) *C. urbica*, L.

Hab. In Europa.

(2.) *C. cashmiriensis*, Gould.

Minor præcedente: cauda brevior, subfurcata; partibus superioribus atris, vix purpureo-splendentibus: axillaribus fuscis.

Hab. In Cashmiria.

(3.) *C. blakistoni*, n. sp.

Simillima *C. cashmiriensis*, sed mento, axillaribus et tectricum infracaudalium apicibus atro-fuscis: gula nivea: subtus fuscescens, rachidibus plumarum multarum, præsertim crissi et etiam uropygii, fuscis.

Hab. In Japoniæ ins. Yesso.

(4.) *C. lagopoda*, Pallas.

Similis *C. urbica*, sed minor, subtus nivea : cauda minus furcata : axillaribus saturate fuscis : tectricibus supracaudalibus niveis, rachidibus plumarum tenuissime fuscis.

Hab. In Siberia (Pallas) ; in China boreali (Fleming).

Before the Zoological Society I pointed out the undoubted distinctness of Mr. Whiteley's bird, from Peking, from the European bird, and proposed to name it after that gentleman. But I find, on reference to Pallas's 'Zoographia Rosso-Asiatica' (vol. i. p. 534), that the Martin therein described, from Siberia, under the above name, and referred by Pallas himself, and since then by Middendorff* and von Schrenck†, to *C. urbica* of Linnaeus, answers in every respect to the bird from Peking, and by no means tallies with the European House-Martin. I feel therefore bound to lay aside my name, and to apply to it the older denomination given to it by Pallas, which has hitherto been considered synonymous with *C. urbica*.

18. WARBLER.

The bird observed by me was probably the same as one in Mr. Fleming's collection, which is identical with Mr. Blyth's *Arundinax olivaceus*. This again answers to *Salicaria aëdon*, Pallas, as figured in v. Schrenck's Amur-Reise, i. pl. 12. There is also in this series a specimen of *Salicaria cantillans*, Schlegel.

19. GRASSHOPPER-LARK.

This must have been *Locustella ochotensis* (*Sylvia ochotensis*, Midd. Reise, p. 185, pl. 16. figs. 7. 8), described from Siberia. Capt. Blakiston's Hakodadi series contains one of this bird.

22. BLUE-THROATED WARBLER.

Mr. Fleming has brought from Peking two skins of this bird, both of which have the red spot on the breast, in place of the white spot, and are therefore referable to *Cyanecula cærulecula* (Pallas).

24. BLUE-TAIL.

Our specimens of this bird agree with Japanese examples, which differ from *Ianthia rufilata*, Hodgson, of the Himalayas, in having a white eyebrow-mark where the latter has only a bright blue one, and in being more dingy on the upper parts.

* Sib. Reise, p. 189.

† Amur-Reise, p. 388.

The Siberian specimens in the British Museum, marked *cyanura*, again differ from both in having a rufescent eye-streak, and in having the throat and breast reddish buff-colour instead of white. Ours will stand as true *Ianthia cyanura* (Schleg.) of the 'Fauna Japonica.'

To the Robin-Warblers I can now add a South-China bird lately procured from Peking, which I described in 'The Ibis,' vol. iii. p. 262. My description, however, was from a bird not fully matured; I mean the *Larvivora gracilis*, Swinhoe. This species much resembles *L. cyanea* of Northern India in form, and a good deal in colouring; but its wings are shorter and its bill longer. *L. cyanea* has the lower neck, breast, and flanks a fine reddish buff, instead of pure white as in our species,—its chin and two streaks proceeding from it only being white. It also has a narrow white eye-streak, which is wanting in our species. As I have before described only the immature bird, I will now add a short note of the peculiar features of the adult male:—

LARVIVORA GRACILIS, mihi.

Supra cyanea: subtus nivea: linea a rictu colli latera utrinque ad ulnam descendente nigra: remigibus fuscis: rostro nigro: cruribus pedibusque pallide carneis.

27. RIBBON-TAILED FLYCATCHER.

From the skins brought home by Mr. Fleming, this appears to be *Tchitrea incei*, Gould, which differs from *T. affinis*, of Malacca, in having a much smaller bill.

30. PIED-TAIL FLYCATCHER.

This is the *Muscicapa leucura* of Gmelin and the *M. albicilla* of Pallas. Our skins of this bird agree with those from India; but I have not been able to compare them with specimens of the *Erythrosterina parva* of Europe, as there are none of the latter in the British Museum.

To the Flycatchers I can now add

Xanthopygia leucophrys, Blyth, of India.

Strange that this species should occur in the north, and not the ordinary *X. narcissina* of Japan.

Niltava cyanomelæna (Schleg.), *Muscicapa cyanomelæna* of the Faun. Japan.

33. BROWN WREN. *Phylloscopus fuscatus*, Hodgson.

This is identical with skins in the British Museum from Siberia, marked *Sylvia sibirica*, Pallas.

34. CROWNED WREN. *Phylloscopus coronatus* (Schlegel).

All doubt about this species is at an end, as Mr. Fleming has brought specimens of it from Peking.

39. PALE REDWING.

Should be *Turdus pallens*, Pallas (*T. obscurus*, Gmelin). *T. pallidus* of Gmelin is the *T. daulias* of the 'Fauna Japonica.'

40. RED-TAILED FIELDFARE.

This is, I find, the winter plumage of *Turdus ruficollis*, Pallas.

To these Thrushes we may add, from Peking,

Turdus sibiricus, Pall.,

T. fuscatus, Pall., and

Petrocincla manilensis, Gmelin.

41. MONTICOLA — ?

This Thrush has turned out, as I surmised, a new species. In my note, p. 332, I observe "abundant" has been misprinted for "aberrant." Our species is rather a tree-bird than a rock-bird, like the Himalayan species *cinclorhynchus*, to which it is closely affine, and which has rightly enough been made the type of another genus, *Oræcetes*. The bird I procured was not quite mature; but Mr. Fleming's specimen (a fine adult male) afforded me an opportunity of describing it at the meeting of the Zoological Society. Our species is smaller in size, and has a shorter and more robust bill, than *O. cinclorhynchus*, which is at once distinguishable from ours by its throat and neck being blue-grey like the crown, by the blue edging of its wings and tail, and by its having the white that adorns the wing extending over the six inner tertiary quills instead of only over the second and third consecutive feathers.

ORÆCETES GULARIS, n. sp. (Plate III.)

Crown of the head, extending down the back of the neck, and carpal region of the wings clear French or lazuline grey. Loral space, sides of the neck, under parts, rump, and upper tail-coverts deep reddish buff. Auriculars, onwards to the back, back, sea-

pulars, and lesser wing-coverts black. Wings and tail hair-brown, with a surface-wash of pale grey, chiefly conspicuous on the basal half of the latter; the feathers of the wing edged with pale buff, the greater coverts and tertials being strongly tipped with the same. A white spot, comprising the basal portions of the outer webs of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th tertiaries, ornaments the wing. The singularly distinctive character whence I have taken its name consists in a white line, which, starting from the centre of the chin, runs down in front quite to the breast, broadening as it descends to the form of an isosceles triangle, a line of black spots edging for some distance the rufous that flanks its sides. Bill blackish brown, with bright yellow rictus inside the mouth. Legs and claws brown, strongly washed with ochre. Iris deep brown.

Total length 7 inches; wing 4; tail $2\frac{8}{10}$.

43. PIED WAGTAIL.

Under this head we may note my species, *Motacilla ocularis*, a specimen of which, in full summer plumage, with grey back, is comprised in Mr. Whiteley's series. This bird resembles *M. lugubris*, though more delicately formed; but is always distinguishable by the carpal region being grey instead of black, and in its summer plumage by its grey back. There is, moreover, less white on the wing. Mr. Blyth identified my bird with *M. dukhunensis*, Sykes; but as I have taken the trouble to examine this species in the East Indian Museum, I can confidently assert that *M. dukhunensis* is one of the *M. alba* group, and not one of the White-winged group so conspicuous for the black line through their eyes.

45. YELLOW QUAKETAIL.

The specimens of this bird brought by Mr. Fleming agree with *Budytes cinereocapilla* of Europe, the wing-coverts only being a little more distinctly tipped with yellow.

46. WOOD WAGTAIL.

This is the true *Nemoricola indica*, Gmelin, as Mr. Whiteley's specimens testify.

51. JAPANESE LARK.

Our two specimens of the Peking Lark do not agree with the

Japanese bird in Capt. Blakiston's collection, which seems to be a true Woodlark. Ours are of the size and form of *Alauda arvensis*, L., but paler, without any sign of the greenish yellow with which English Larks are tinged in winter. Though both males, they have moreover no appearance of crests. I am inclined to think that they will turn out to be distinct; but for the present I will follow the Russian ornithologists in classing the Peking species with the British bird.

To the Larks I must now add a Shore-lark identical with *Otocorys penicillata* of Gould.

59. The RUDDY HAMMER is *Emberiza pithyornis* of Pallas (Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat. ii. p. 37).

To the Buntings I must add a bird, procured by Mr. Fleming, allied to *Emberiza cioides*, which answers entirely to a new species from Kumaon, described by Mr. Moore as *E. stracheyi*. In full plumage these birds are at once distinguishable by their black heads and chin, marked with a stripe of white over the crown, another along the eyebrow, and a third from the lower mandible to the nape.

Among the Finches Mr. Whiteley has one I have not noted, the *Carpodacus erythrinus*, Meyer.

72. BLACK CROW.

This has wrongly been set down as *Corvus japonicus*. It is rather the Chinese representative of *C. corone*, L., which Mr. Gould has designated *C. sinensis*. I have since seen *C. japonicus* in Capt. Blakiston's collection, from Japan. It has a strong bill, like a Raven.

To the Crow group I may add a Chough. The only specimen of this bird in Mr. Fleming's collection is immature, and has clipped wings. It will probably turn out to be the true *Fregilus graculus*, L., which, as I see from the East Indian Museum, also occurs in Java.

78. RED-CHEEKED STARLING.

This was wrongly referred to *Sturnus pyrrhogenys*. Mr. Fleming's bird is doubtless *S. dauricus*, Pall., which also occurs in India and Java.

80. GREEN WOODPECKER, Temm. *Gecinus canus*.

Capt. Blakiston has, from the Yangtsee River, a smaller species, with black hind neck, referable to *G. guerinii*, Malherbe.

81. LARGE PIED WOODPECKER.

This differs from all the four southern forms described by M. Malherbe. It has the tail of *Picus luciani*, and the body of *P. cabanisi*. All I can at present say of it is, that it is one of the difficult *P. major* group, which seem to vary too much in the same locality to admit of splitting into numerous species. I will endeavour to work out my series from various parts of China, with the help of M. Malherbe, and hope to be able to publish the results at some future date.

82. PIED WOODPECKER.

This is a wonderfully close representative of *Picus hyperythrus*, Vigors, of the Himalayas,—too close, indeed, for me to attempt to separate it. It has, however, less red on the sides of the neck than usually occurs in the specimens I have seen from the Himalayas, and the back appears to be more banded.

83. SMALL PIED WOODPECKER.

This species is evidently distinct from any of those figured in M. Malherbe's Monograph of the *Picidæ*. It is one of the black spark-headed group allied to *P. mitchelli*, but differs from all in having the cheek and moustache-streaks brownish grey instead of black. For this species I now propose the name

PICUS SCINTILLICEPS, n. sp.

Affinis *P. mitchelli*; sed strigis auricularibus mystacibusque griseo-fuscis: capitis vertice cano: naribus strigaeque oculari albis: subtus fusco-ochraceus, nigro longitudinaliter striatus: supra maculis fasciisque albis latioribus: occipite nigro; in maribus solum utrinque flammeo ornato. Long. tota 6, alæ 4, caudæ 2·1, poll. et dec. Brit.

84. Mr. Fleming's collection contains a specimen of the veritable English Cuckoo, *Cuculus canorus*, L.

To the Drongo Shrikes I have to add that curious bird, *Chibia hottentota*, L., of the plains of India, which I lately noted from Amoy. This has since been procured at Peking.

106. SNIPPIT. *Tringa* — ?

This turns out to be the true *Tringa pectoralis*. I have also procured it at Amoy.

109. LESSER SNIPPIT.

This bird appears to be *Tringa subminuta* of Middendorff (Sibir. Reise, ii. p. 22).

To the Snippits we may add the Common Dunlin, which is also abundant, *Tringa alpina*.

Among the Sandpipers must be included *Totanus fuscus* and *Terekia javanica*.

121. CURLEW.

My specimens I did not carefully examine at the time. I find now that they have no white on their rumps. They were young birds, and therefore hard to identify; but I am strongly of opinion that they are to be referred to *Numenius australis*, Gould, of Australia, already noticed by v. Schrenck as occurring in Amoorland (Amur-Reise, i. p. 426).

To this group we must also add the Bar-tailed Godwit, *Limosa lapponica*, from Peking.

Among the Herons, Mr. Fleming has brought away *Ardetta sinensis*.

Mr. Fleming's collection also comprises a Rail and a Crake, respectively identical with the species found in India—*Rallus indicus*, Blyth, and *Porzana bailloni* (Vieill.).

159. JAVAN TERN.

Sterna javanica, Horsf., I find is not a true *Sterna* after all. Our bird appears to be the true *Hydrochelidon nigra*, L.

In conclusion, I have to record my best thanks to Mr. Whiteley for permitting me to examine and take notes from his series of Peking birds before they were distributed.

VIII.—*Corrections and Additions to Captain BLAKISTON's Paper "On the Ornithology of Northern Japan"* (vol. iv. No. 16. p. 309).

SINCE the publication of my paper in the last Number of 'The Ibis,' Mr. Robert Swinhoe has arrived in this country with a large part of his extensive collection of Chinese birds, and with a great

